

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 353

BY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

APPROPRIATING MONEYS AND DIRECTING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT ON PERSONNEL COSTS; DIRECTING SALARY REDUCTIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated and the State Controller shall transfer \$9,305,100 from the General Fund to the Public Health Trust Fund for the period July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010.

SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the Legislature to retain to the extent possible, our capable, quality employees who support the essential services and statutorily authorized programs that the citizens of Idaho expect. The Legislature finds these critical essential services to be those that maintain the health and safety of our citizens and the education of our children. While extending flexibility to the Governor and agency directors to manage the state workforce to the best of their ability during these difficult times, it remains the responsibility of the Legislature to identify priorities for the state workforce. The Legislature finds that reductions in personnel funding shall first be managed through salary reductions that impact all personnel fairly; secondly, be mitigated by the use of existing salary savings; thirdly, by using savings created by keeping newly vacated positions unfilled; fourth, by the use of furloughs; and lastly, as a last resort, by reducing the workforce. It is the intent of the Legislature that these policies shall be adhered to by the executive, legislative, and judicial branches to the extent allowed by law.

SECTION 3. SALARY REDUCTION. Inasmuch as salary reductions will save jobs; and inasmuch as a five percent (5%) reduction in personnel funding may create a reduction in force; and inasmuch as the state as a single employer of multiple departments and agencies is required by law to direct across the board salary adjustments; agencies and institutions shall reduce all salaries of classified and nonclassified employees, regardless of fund source, by three percent (3%) for fiscal year 2010, beginning on June 14, 2009, through June 12, 2010. Agencies shall use personnel cost savings, furloughs, and a reduction in force to manage the remaining two percent (2%) in funding reductions. The Division of Human Resources shall adjust all pay schedules for the classified personnel system downward to the extent that all beginning minimum salaries are three percent (3%) less than those in effect upon the date of passage of this law.

SECTION 4. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby declared to exist, Section 3 of this act shall be in full force and effect on and after passage and approval.